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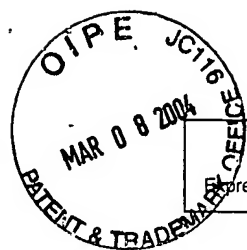
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Docket No.: 04178/000L162-US0
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Atsuo Hamada et al.

Application No.: 10/066,816

Customer No.: 07278

Filed: February 4, 2002

Art Unit: 1744

Allowance Date: January 30, 2004

Issue Fee Due Date: April 30, 2004

For: UP-RIGHT TYPE ELECTRIC VACUUM
CLEANER

Examiner: T. R. Till

CONFIRMATION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT
CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby claim priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country on the date indicated:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Date</u>
JAPAN	2001-034374	February 9, 2001

In support of this claim, a certified copy of the said original foreign application was submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 4, 2002 and received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and acknowledged by the return postcard date stamped 02/04/02 with U.S. Serial Number 10/066,816 (copy attached as Exhibit A).



Application No.: 10/066,816

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Docket No.: 04178/000L162-US0

In addition, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of the face of the priority document for Japanese Application number 2001-034374, date of application February 9, 2001 (copy attached as Exhibit B) originally filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 4, 2002 as shown on the enclosed postcard submitted herewith as Exhibit A.

Applicants respectfully submit that a copy of the return postcard, stamped by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, is *prima facie* evidence that the above document was filed and received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Thus, Applicants submit that the claim for priority was timely perfected and that the claim is proper and no time should be reduced from the Applicants' Adjusted Patent Term.

Dated: March 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By


Louis J. DeHuidice

Registration No.: 47,522

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Agent For Applicants

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日 本 国 特 許 庁
JAPAN PATENT OFFICE

別紙添付の書類に記載されている事項は下記の出願書類に記載されている事項と同一であることを証明する。

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office

出 願 年 月 日
Date of Application:

2001年 2月 9日

出 願 番 号
Application Number:

特願2001-034374

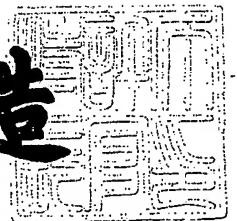
出 願 人
Applicant(s):

三洋電機株式会社

2001年12月28日

特 許 庁 長 官
Commissioner,
Japan Patent Office

及 川 耕 造



出証番号 出証特2001-3112784